

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 are pending in the application.

Claims 1-3 has been amended to correct minor typographical errors, without adding new matter to the application.

Claims 1-3 stand rejected under 35 USC 103 (a) over Raby et al. (USP 7,018,018 B2) in view of Forkner (USP 3,580,126). This rejection is respectfully traversed for the reasons that follow.

Original Claim 1 recites, referring to the original claim language and to present Figure 4, "acute noses [8] positioned at the imaginary circumference of a circle with slightly smaller diameter than the standard nominal diameter of the lamp (3)." Later, Claim 1 recites in relevant part, "said acute noses (8) can bend a little in order to be adjusted to the slightly bigger diameter of the lamp (3) and retain the reflector (2) by means of friction in different positions when the reflector (2) rotates in relation to the longitudinal axis of the lamp (3)."

The foregoing features relating to how the claimed louvers are supported by a fluorescent lamp are not taught or suggested by Raby et al. or Fornker, alone or in combination. Raby et al. merely teach with respect to their Figure 2, "A central hole 28 is sized to receive the light tube 12." Col. 2, line 61. They do not teach that the hole is sized *below* the diameter of the lamp, as defined by the subject claim features. Nor do they teach the claimed ability of the acute noses to "bend a little" to facilitate a friction fit of louvres on lamp. Forkner's light display instrument fails to remedy the foregoing deficiencies of Raby et al., whereby Claim 1 should be held patentable.

Alternatively, Claim 1 has also been amended to recite, "the openings of the louvres (4) through which the lamp (3) passes have a plurality of acute noses (8) pointing towards an inner part of the circle and being positioned at along each half of the imaginary circumference of a circle." Each of the added words finds support in the drawings, as for instance, Figure 4, and in the accompanying discussion in the specification at page 4, lines 4-24. Therefore, no new matter has been added to the application.

Ruby et al. lacks the claimed "plurality of acute noses pointing towards an inner part of the circle and positioned along each half of the imaginary circumference of a

circle," as recited in Claim 1. As pointed out above, Ruby et al. further lack the claimed feature of, "said acute noses (8) can bend a little in order to be adjusted to the slightly bigger diameter of the lamp (3) and retain the reflector (2) by means of friction in different positions when the reflector (2) rotates in relation to the longitudinal axis of the lamp (3)." The claimed interface between lamp and reflector louvre therefore differs from that of Ruby et al. And, Forkner fails to remedy the deficiencies of Ruby et al. So, on this alternative basis, Claim 1 should be held patentable.

The claims depending from Claim 1 recite further features of the invention so as to more forcefully distinguish over the prior art than Claim 1. For instance, Claim 3 recites:

[T]he louvres (4) have anchor-shaped ends (5) in the appropriate size so that when the louvres (4) are fitted on-through the respective slots (7) of the reflector (2), thanks to the flexibility of the thin synthetic film, the anchor-shaped ends (5) click on the body of the reflector (2) and cannot be released due to accidental movement and the stresses exercised on the louvres (4).

Louvre ends 22 of Ruby et al. are not "fitted through the respective slots of the reflector" as claimed. In fact, it's the other way around in Ruby et al., in which "side edges 26 [of the reflector] are hooked into a respective slot 24 [in the louvre 22]. Col. 2, lines 50-54. Forkner does not remedy Ruby et al. in this regard.

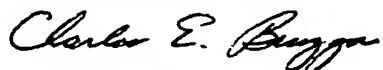
For the foregoing reasons, allowance of the application is solicited.

Certificate of Filing

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Respectfully submitted,



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